



Cooperating with the University of Arkansas – Division of Agriculture
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Reporting for the week ending September 21, 2008.

General

Last week was unseasonably cool across Arkansas as every weather station reported average temperatures at least 3 degrees below normal, including 8 degrees below normal in Booneville. Low temperatures ranged from 44 degrees Fahrenheit in Keiser to 56 degrees Fahrenheit in Eudora, and high temperatures ranged from 79 degrees Fahrenheit in Batesville to 88 degrees Fahrenheit in Conway and Eudora. There was very little precipitation last week as only 3 weather stations reported more than a quarter of an inch of rainfall, with the Northeast district receiving the most. After two hurricane influenced weeks, the drier conditions last week caused the surplus topsoil moisture ratings to drop 28 percentage points. Topsoil moisture supplies were 4 percent short, 76 percent adequate, and 20 percent surplus. Subsoil moisture supplies were 5 percent short, 76 percent adequate, and 19 percent surplus. The number of days suitable for fieldwork was 5.9.

Crops

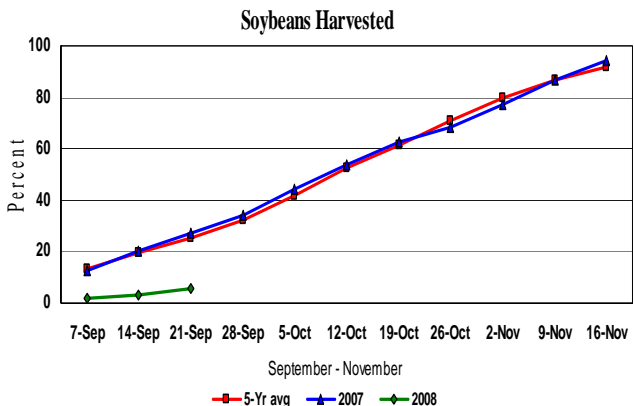
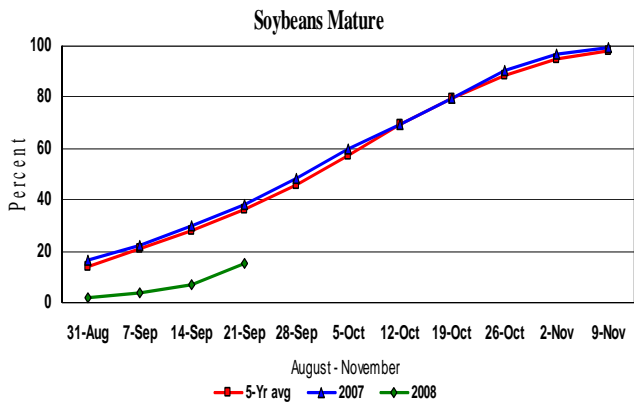
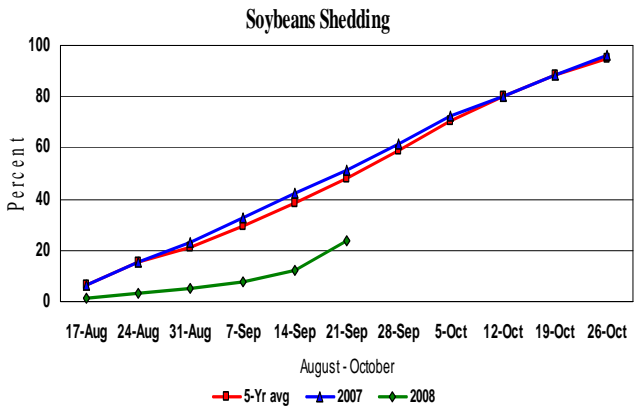
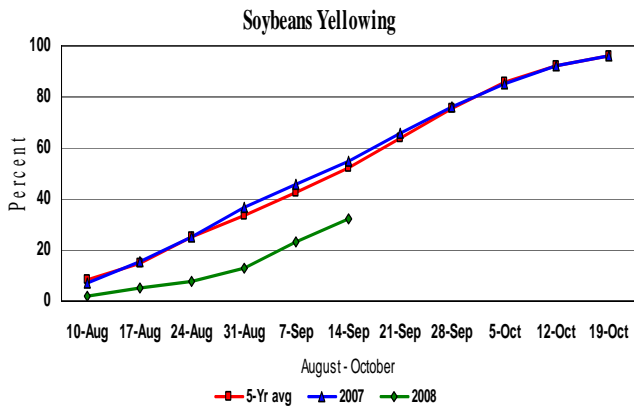
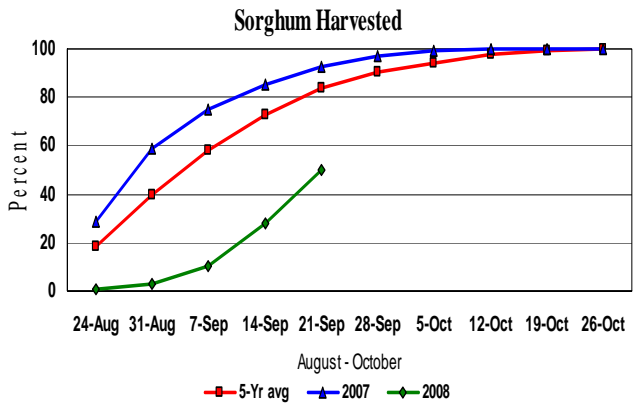
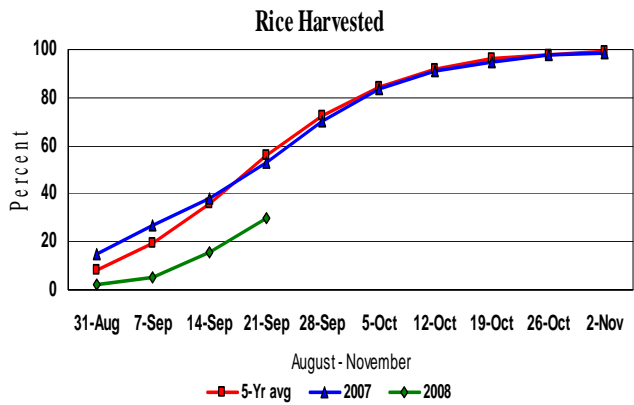
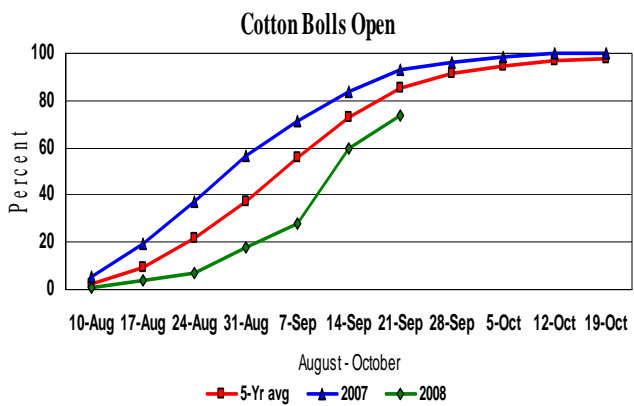
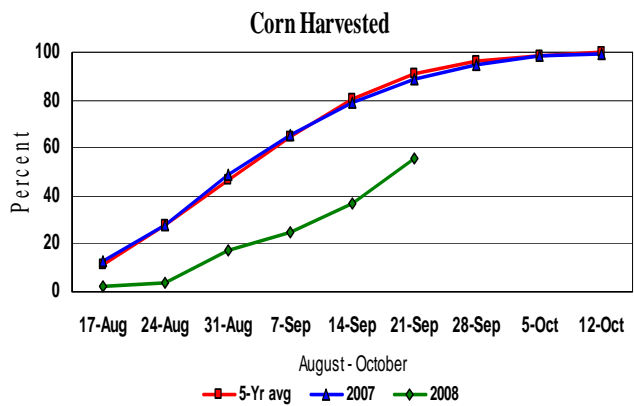
Crop damage due to Hurricane Ike was evaluated last week. Lodging of corn and rice and hard locking of defoliated cotton had producers concerned about potential yield loss. Corn farmers took advantage of last week’s dry weather to harvest an additional 19 percent of the corn crop but were still 33 percent behind last year and 35 percent behind the 5-year average. Cotton opening bolls increased 14 percent to reach 74 percent, which was about two weeks behind 2007 and a week behind the 5-year average. Cotton producers started to harvest but were 14 percent behind the previous year and 8 percent behind the 5-year average. Rice farmers harvested 14 percent more of the crop last week but were more than a week behind last year and the 5-year average. An additional 7 percent of the sorghum crop reached maturity to end the week at 96 percent. Another 22 percent of the crop was harvested by farmers last week, but they were two weeks behind last year and more than three weeks behind the 5-year average. Soybeans yellowing, at 46 percent, increased 14 percent last week while shedding, at 24 percent, was almost three weeks behind the previous year and the 5-year average. Soybeans reaching maturity, at 15 percent, was 23 percent behind 2007 and 21 percent behind the 5-year average. Soybean producers, with only 6 percent of the crop harvested, were more than two weeks behind last year and the 5-year average. The spring crops were in mostly fair to good condition. Farmers started to plant winter wheat last week.

Livestock

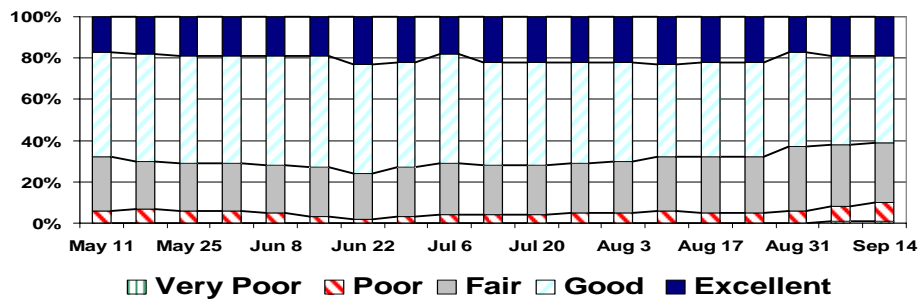
Livestock were rated in fair to good condition. Producers continued to be concerned with armyworms in their lush forage crops. Drier conditions have allowed producers to harvest hay again. Pasture and range and hay crops were in at least 82 percent fair to good condition.

Percent of Progress					
Crop	Stage	Current Week	Previous Week	2007	5-Year Avg
Corn	Mature	99	98	100	100
	Harvested	56	37	89	91
Cotton	Opening Bolls	74	60	93	85
	Harvested	1	0	15	9
Rice	Harvested	30	16	53	56
Sorghum	Mature	96	89	100	98
	Harvested	50	28	93	84
Soybeans	Yellowing	46	32	66	64
	Shedding	24	12	51	48
	Mature	15	7	38	36
Winter Wheat	Harvested	6	3	27	25
	Planted	1	0	2	2

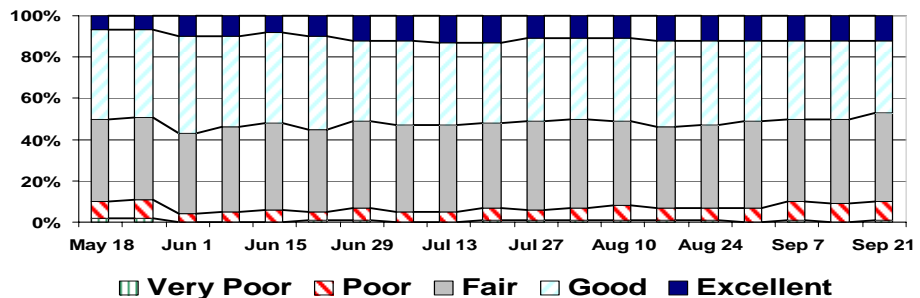
Condition in Percentages					
Crop	Very Poor	Poor	Fair	Good	Excellent
Cotton	2	10	33	44	11
Rice	2	12	30	44	12
Sorghum	1	9	43	35	12
Soybeans	4	12	34	37	13
Hay-Alfalfa	1	10	22	63	4
Hay-Other	0	3	32	50	15
Pasture and Range	0	2	27	55	16



Corn Condition



Sorghum Condition



Temperatures and Precipitation Week Ending September 21, 2008									
District	Station	Temperatures			Rainfall				
		High	Low	Dep from Normal *	Wk Ending Sep 21	4 wk Accum	4 wk Normal	Year to Date 2008	Year to Date Normal
Northwest	Fayetteville	81	45	-5	0.00	9.31	4.30	52.94	33.13
	Harrison	80	46	-5	0.00	6.72	3.79	55.29	32.19
N. Central	Calico Rock	80	50	-3	0.00	8.07	3.64	60.65	32.46
	Gilbert	81	49	-5	0.00	8.05	3.41	66.11	31.48
	Greers Ferry	80	50	-6	0.00	7.88	3.58	56.15	35.26
	Mtn. Home	81	51	-3	0.00	7.67	3.87	56.31	31.84
Northeast	Batesville	79	50	-6	0.00	6.05	3.24	47.17	33.20
	Blytheville	87	50	-5	1.05	3.17	2.83	29.25	36.48
	Jonesboro	86	54	-3	0.22	3.14	2.76	36.77	32.28
	Keiser	85	44	-4	1.50	3.61	3.24	35.90	35.95
	Newport	82	53	-7	0.15	3.18	3.16	41.60	34.08
W. Central	Booneville	81	48	-8	0.00	6.83	3.42	55.15	33.53
	Clarksville	83	51	-4	0.02	7.91	3.35	56.61	32.43
	Dardanelle	83	51	-5	0.00	6.07	3.09	58.79	33.84
	Ft. Smith	84	51	-4	0.00	8.10	3.12	52.49	30.79
	Mena	82	47	-6	0.05	9.75	4.02	60.57	40.38
	Ozark	84	49	-5	0.00	7.80	3.17	52.37	31.39
Central	Conway	88	51	-5	0.00	11.05	3.24	57.13	33.71
	Hot Springs	83	53	-5	0.00	9.62	3.44	56.70	39.95
	Little Rock	83	54	-4	0.00	7.61	3.27	46.96	35.33
	Morrilton	83	52	-5	0.00	9.79	2.81	56.11	32.97
	N. Little Rock	84	54	-4	0.00	8.73	3.20	44.78	34.31
E. Central	Brinkley	84	52	-3	0.00	3.95	2.63	35.94	35.40
	Marianna	84	50	-4	0.20	3.20	2.80	41.61	37.69
	Stuttgart	85	51	-6	0.00	7.22	2.41	43.39	34.33
	West Memphis	85	52	-4	0.97	3.42	3.00	35.07	37.62
Southwest	DeQueen	86	51	-4	0.12	3.64	3.57	38.74	37.68
	Hope	83	53	-6	0.00	10.28	3.65	55.30	38.04
	Texarkana	83	53	-7	0.00	7.98	2.90	43.86	32.52
S. Central	Camden	80	52	-6	0.00	8.57	3.13	41.58	37.46
	El Dorado	84	53	-6	0.00	6.98	2.92	39.71	39.43
	Warren	81	53	-5	0.00	13.14	3.23	58.21	39.56
Southeast	Eudora	88	56	-4	0.00	17.39	2.48	65.16	41.07
	Monticello	84	54	-4	0.00	7.94	2.88	45.74	39.90
	Pine Bluff	83	53	-5	0.00	6.33	2.85	33.67	36.97
	Rohwer	84	54	-4	0.00	10.40	2.57	45.16	37.04

* Departure from normal = $\frac{(\text{high} - \text{low})}{2}$ - 30 year average.

Produced by:
In cooperation with:

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